



2429 Nicollet Ave
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Chair Hornstein and Members of the Committee,

We are writing to express our strong support for Rep. Fue Lee's House File 3588, a bill providing for a planned transition to zero-emission transit buses by 2030.

Our transportation system is how we stay connected as Minnesotans. Our transit bus systems, in particular, are a critical part of accomplishing that. For students and parents, shoppers and patients, for daily riders or one-time tourists, our buses connect Minnesotans to places we need to go and to the people we need to see.

This bill would provide for a managed transition to cleaner vehicles for transit riders across the state. It does by requiring buses purchased after January 1, 2030 be zero-emission. The planning would happen both within the Department of Transportation and the Metropolitan Council. They must engage with relevant stakeholders, provide technical assistance, and revise the plans every three years.

Should the zero-emission bus procurement not be feasible by 2030, the bill provides for a transparent off-ramp that may extend the commencement date or provide for a phase-in schedule.

Finally, the bill includes an open appropriation for transition planning. **We strongly encourage the committee to fund both this planning and the incremental additional costs of zero-emission buses.** It will be essential that the State of Minnesota be a leading partner in funding this transition.

We believe a full, managed transition to zero emission buses will be a benefit to Minnesotans, bringing lower emissions and cleaner air, while providing a more efficient and welcoming public transit options.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Aurora Vautrin

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